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on "Mortuary Customs and Beliefs" (vol. vii. pp. 318, 319). From the same paper we take the matter which follows:—

"A common superstition among the plantation negroes of the old régime was that pigs had the gift of seeing wind, in the form of flames of fire.

"The old mammas will tell you that if any one steps over a child playing on the floor 'its growth will be stunted.' A young infant must always be carried upstairs before it is taken downstairs, else it will never succeed in life. If it is already on the highest story, its head must be held just inside the loft, as a substitute for the upward journey.

"The darkies used to say, speaking of crows, 'If he come, he no come; if he no come, he come!' meaning by this extraordinary saying that if crows came the corn would not be allowed to grow, and if they did not arrive the crops would be all right."

"A negro will never look at the new moon through the trees; it is sure to bring bad luck. Neither will he put on his left shoe first, as he would then be unlucky all day. To kill a cat is sure to bring some dreadful misfortune upon you, and they have the usual superstition that a black cat is a witch. They must consider all sable pussies to be of the feminine persuasion. I have never heard one called a wizard.

"Their method employed to drive away 'sperrits that come knocking at the front door or window' will certainly succeed, if the olfactories of the spiritual visitants are constituted like those of human beings. The recipe is as follows: Take some old shoes, put sulphur in them, then set fire to the whole; this will drive away the 'sperrits,' mosquitoes, and everything else that has a nose."

Miss Waring mentions the superstition respecting the left hind foot of a graveyard rabbit, and adds from the same informant: "Another of Ann's injunctions is: 'My dear missus, neber leab a half o' punkin in your kitchen, 'cause ghost will come get in 'im sure, an' he will stay in de kitchen, and mek you have de worse luck bakin'.'"

NOTES AND QUERIES.

FOLK-LORE OF CANADIAN CHILDREN. — The following notes of games and rhymes of Canadian children may be of interest. The following counting-out rhymes are given in the form in which the writer heard and used them in the town of Peterborough, Ontario, some sixteen or seventeen years ago:—

I. Onery, twoery, ickery, Ann,
Fillisy, follisy, Nicholas, John,
Beaver, weaver, stingelum, steever,
O-u-t spells, "out."

II. Eeny, meeny, dippery, Dick,
Deelia, dollia, Dominick,

Hypa potcha dominotcha,
Tee, taw, tick.

III. One, two, Buckle my shoe ;
 Three, four, Knock at the door ;
 Five, six, Pick up sticks ;
 Seven, eight, Lay them straight ;
 Nine, ten, A good fat hen ;
 Eleven, twelve, Puss is in the well ;
 Thirteen, fourteen, You're a-courtin' ;
 Fifteen, sixteen, Polly's in the kitchen ;
 Seventeen, eighteen, We're a-waitin' ;
 Nineteen, twenty, My belly's empty.

The first two differ in the third line from those recorded by Mr. Newell ("Games and Songs," pp. 197, 198), while the third is a more regular form of that recorded by Mr. Babcock, as current in Washington, D. C. (Amer. Anthrop. i. p. 272.)

The following singing games are recorded by a reporter of the Toronto "Telegram," as being in practice on Dominion Day (July 1) 1888 :—

"Favorite among the little children's plays seem to be the singing games, some of which philologists have traced back to the days of the infant-world, for your real true Conservative is a child."

"Here is a Catherine-wheel of little girls, and this is the song they sing :—

Go round and round the valley,
 Go round and round the valley,
 Go round and round the valley,
 For we are all so gay.

"Another popular singing game is :—

Here comes our king arriving
 To my Nancy Tancy Tisabyo ;
 To my Nancy Tancy Tee.

"Perhaps none of the children's melodies is prettier than this :—



NUTS IN MAY.

Here we come gath'ring nuts in May,
 Nuts in May, nuts in May ;
 Here we come gath'ring nuts in May
 On a cold and frosty morning."

The first of these "ring-songs" differs from the same as recorded by Mr. Babcock (p. 255) merely by having *for* in the third line, instead of *as*. The second appears to be a variant of Mr. Babcock's :—

Here comes one duke a riding,
 A riding, a riding,

Here comes one duke a riding,
Sir Ransom Tansom Tiddy Bo Teek.

The correspondences "arriving" = "a riding," "Ransom Tansom Tiddy Bo Teek" = "Nancy Tancy Tisabyo," are worthy of note.

The game noted by Mr. Babcock as "Little Sally Waters," was practised in Peterborough in 1880, but the more common form of the rhyme (still in use in Toronto) is :—

Choose to the east, and choose to the west,
Choose the one that you love best,
If she's [he's] not here to take your part,
Choose the next one to your heart.

Of the "Sally Waters" rhyme the writer remembers but two lines :—

Little Sally Waters sitting in the Sand or Sun]
· · · · ·

Rise, Sally, rise, wipe the tears from your eyes.

The following version of "Green Gravel" was heard in Toronto in the summer of 1893 :—

Green Gravel, Green Gravel,
The grass grows so green,
The fairest of ladies
Is fit to be seen,
(Var. Is fit to be Queen.)

Dear —, dear —,
Your true love is dead;
He sent you a letter
To turn round your head.

This rhyme exhibits quite a variation in the third and fourth lines from the form given by Mr. Newell (p. 71). At the same time and place a version of "Highery O Valerio" was obtained which rhymes thus :—

Highery O Valerio!
The farmer in his den,
The farmer in his den,
Highery O Valerio!
The farmer in his den.

The farmer takes his wife,
The farmer takes his wife,
Highery O Valerio!
The farmer takes his wife.

The wife takes the child,
The wife takes the child,
Highery O Valerio!
The wife takes the child.

The child takes the nurse,
The child takes the nurse,

Highery O Valerio !
The child takes the nurse.

The nurse takes the dog,
The nurse takes the dog,
Highery O Valerio !
The nurse takes the dog.

The dog takes the cat,
The dog takes the cat,
Highery O Valerio !
The dog takes the cat.

The cat takes the rat,
The cat takes the rat,
Highery O Valerio !
The cat takes the rat.

The rat takes the cheese,
The rat takes the cheese,
Highery O Valerio !
The rat takes the cheese.

The cheese stands still,
The cheese stands still,
Highery O Valerio !
The cheese stands still.

This is a curious variant of Mr. Newell's (p. 129) "The Farmer in the Dell," of which the refrain is "Heigh ho ! for Rowley O !"

A. F. Chamberlain.

WORCESTER, MASS.

VARIANTS OF COUNTING-OUT RHYMES.—The following may be worth printing as variations of familiar counting-out rhymes :—

1. Hana dana tina das,
Catta, pheela, phila, phas,
Hant pan, mister Dan,
Tiklum, taklum, twenty-one.

(County Cork, Ireland.)

2. Ena, deena, dinah, dust,
Caule, wheeler, wiler, wust,
Spit-spot, must be done,
Twiddle um, twooldum, twenty-one,
O-U-T spells out.

(Roxbury, Mass.)

3. As I went under an apple-tree,
All the apples fell on me,
Make a pudding, make a pie,
Just you stand by.

(Bathurst, N. B.)